STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS # 33101-2102233111FAS2
AMENDMENT # Two
FOR INTERACTIVE ONLINE PUBLIC REPORTING PLATFORM

DATE: December 29, 2021

RFP # 33101-2102233111FAS2 IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

1. **This RFP Schedule of Events updates and confirms scheduled RFP dates.** Any event, time, or date containing revised or new text is highlighted.

EVENT	TIME (central time zone)	DATE
1. RFP Issued		November 24, 2021
2. Disability Accommodation Request Deadline	2:00 p.m.	December 2, 2021
3. Pre-response Conference		December 3, 2021
4. Notice of Intent to Respond Deadline	2:00 p.m.	December 6, 2021
5. Written "Questions & Comments" Deadline	2:00 p.m.	December 13, 2021
6. State Response to Written "Questions & Comments"		December 29, 2021
7. Response Deadline	2:00 p.m.	January 18, 2022
8. State Completion of Technical Response Evaluations		January 28, 2022
9. State Schedules Respondent Oral Presentation		January 31, 2022
10. Respondent Oral Presentation	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	February 7 - 11, 2022
11. State Opening & Scoring of Cost Proposals	9:00 a.m.	February 14, 2022
12. State Notice of Intent to Award Released and RFP Files Opened for Public Inspection		February 22, 2022
13. End of Open File Period		March 1, 2022
14. State sends contract to Contractor for signature		March 3, 2022

15. Contractor Signature Deadline	2:00 p.m.	March 8, 2022
16. Contract Award/Effective Date		March 11, 2022

2.   State responses to questions and comments in the table below amend and clarify this RFP.

Any restatement of RFP text in the Question/Comment column shall NOT be construed as a change in the actual wording of the RFP document. **RFP SECTION**	**PAGE #**	**QUESTION / COMMENT**	**STATE RESPONSE**
		Does the first launch date require all academic/student-focused metrics, and design cycles to be completed by August 1?	Yes - as many as are available. There may be a need to load data as it is available. The vendor should refer to the requirements for each release as described in A.3.(a).

| | | Regarding the requirement "Delivery includes underlying source code as well as the exclusive ownership rights to the code. This source code shall live in the Azure DevOps repository owned by the State. Upon delivery, the Contractor shall not be permitted to sell the source code used to develop the Report Card to other organizations in the future."…

We prefer to make our code open-source and deploy solutions in multiple states to keep national costs down. While we would not sell the code directly to other organizations, we would like to be able to deploy it with other partners. Would this be in violation of this requirement? | The TN Department of Education (TDOE) will consider proposals with open source technology; however, any calculations or data structures that are specific to TN data and used to display the data in the interface may not be shared. |
| | | What metrics is TNDOE calculating and what metrics is the vendor calculating? | The pro forma contract (RFP attachment 6.6) outlines calculation and documentation responsibilities in section A.5.c.1.ii.6 ("Accountability Model Data Transformations"). |

		Does TNDOE need support with determining business rules for report card metrics?	We will not require support with determining business rules, but experience with gathering business requirements and crafting business rules will be taken into consideration in the evaluation.
		The RFP states "Ingest, process/transform, and load underlying raw data into a normalized schema compatible with Ed-Fi data standards". Is TNDOE building an Ed-Fi ODS, and if so, what is the status of that work?	TN is building an EdFi based ODS. That work is in progress and will be deployed separately from this RFP.
		The RFP lists both SSO requirements and requirements for parental use. Please confirm that these are not related and there are no secure views for parents planned. If this is not confirmed please describe the system by which parents access the SSO.	There are current no secure views for parents planned. The SSO would only apply to TDOE staff and district staff and administrators to be able to administer the dashboard and preview data during the quarantine period prior to public release.
		Can we assume all Azure tools are available in the state's existing infrastructure?	Yes. All Azure tools and services can be available as needed with review and approval by the TDOE IT team.

		The RFP mentions the need to: "utilize a tech stack that aligns with technologies in use by TNDOE." Please list which technologies are in use by TNDOE and if possible the technologies that are considered aligned to those technologies. In lieu of this, does a tech stack of python, dbt, java/typescript, and other open-source tools qualify as aligned?	Yes. The proposed tech stack would be considered aligned with our long-term technology preferences.
		Please describe TNDOE's approved architectural procedures.	Any solution proposed by the vendor would require a review by the TDOE IT Application Architecture Review team. The Review team will consider alignment with tech stack requirements, best practices for providing a secure solution, and overall interoperability and integration methodologies. The TDOE IT team will work with vendor to ensure architectural alignment. The vendor is also encouraged, as part of its RFP response, to include a high-level architecture of its solution to facilitate the review.
		Internet Explorer (IE) is EOL before the planned release. Please confirm that IE support is not required as this is infeasible.	IE Support is not required for this planned release. Supported versions of Chrome, Firefox, Safari, and Edge should be supported.

		The RFP states that "The underlying database and infrastructure to house the Report Card platform shall be built so that it can be hosted/deployed on the State's cloud infrastructure and cloud platform." Does TNDOE have any requirements on the database technology that is used as long as it meets this requirement?	TDOE preference, for security and interoperability, is that the vendor uses MSSQL or MySQL for the database. Other options may be considered. Oracle in Azure will not be considered as a viable option.
	4.8.3	Is there a current vendor from which a transition has to be planned for this contract? Where can we see responses and associated materials to past RFPs?	There is a current vendor. Please visit https://reportcard.tnedu.gov for more information about current materials. The current vendor was not selected via an RFP, so there are no past RFP materials to provide.
	A.4.a.(1).iii	Both the State and the Contractor shall have access to and the ability to track all dates, products, and tasks included in each iterative design cycle in the Annual Work Plan. How....where will the tracking be done? Our tool or specified by State?	The vendor is responsible for creating, maintaining and managing the tool. The vendor is also responsible for ensuring all relevant parties included in the management of the project have access to the tracking tool which includes any applicable licenses depending on the tracking platform selected by the vendor. The associated cost of any necessary licenses selected by the Contract must also be paid for by the vendor and not come at a cost to the TDOE.

| | | Development of all project management reports in accordance with all plans in Section A.4.a.1. and A.4.a.2. including differentiated reporting for different State representatives, including but not limited to non technical executive, technical executive, and program manager, in a manner proposed by the Contractor and approved by the State.

We would like to see some samples of the data set or previous implementations so we can get a better idea of what is meant by differentiated reporting? Are there any examples or views that can be provided? | The State does not have any relevant samples that would aid in the preparation of responses to this RFP. The State requests that the vendor provide samples of project artifacts (Status/Risks/Issues) that are tailored for different stakeholder/project groups for evaluation as part of the Technical Response. In this case, an Executive Summary on a weekly status report will be different than a project team status report - each will have a different level of detail. Additionally, the vendor should be capable of generating a status report that might be viewed by external executive and legislative stakeholders. |
| | A8.d.(5).e | State's Best for All Central (BFAC) online platform.

Can we get a demo of this BFAC platform? | A demo of the platform is not required at this time for the purposes of responding to this RFP. The report card shall initially be launched independently of Best For All Central platform and be incorporated at a later time working with the vendor to ensure continuity of the user experience. |

		Can we get a wireframe so we get greater clarity on how the platform is expected to look at time of delivery	The wireframes are to be drafted by the vendor and reviewed with the TDOE based on the needs defined in the RFP. Using the existing state report card as a guide, the vendors should create wireframes and designs as part of the initial project phases.
	A.3. (a)	Release one shall include all state accountability data, ratings, and available data at the time of the Release, along with associated business rule guidance documentation. Can we get a sample list of the feature(s) and wireframe(s) expected for the visualization of the data. Can we get access to sample suppressed (PII removed) data (what's most important for the scoping is for us to know the data set we are expected to work with (column names and data types) Also It will be very helpful if we can receive some representative sample of the report (end product) that is to be produced by the reporting platform.	Our public Data Downloads page (https://www.tn.gov/education/data/data-downloads.html) includes suppressed data files that give some sense of what data sets to expect. (Note that we are updating the formats of files we publish, so some of the publicly available file formats might change somewhat. In addition, some data sets might be specific to the Report Card but will not appear on our Data Downloads page.)

| | | Release two shall include the presentation of all remaining data to meet the Reporting Requirements and any additional data not included in Release 1, including climate, staff, and finance data.

What is meant by climate, staff and finance data. Climate in particular is unclear…. | Please visit https://reportcard.tnedu.gov for more information about what types of data are included. Climate data is survey data that is available from the TDOE and would be tagged to participating schools and districts. |
| | A.5. | The Contractor shall receive, at the State's discretion, specific User stories, specifications, storyboarding or wireframes (whole or in part) with which to design the Platform or its components.

Can we get access to the said user stories, specifications, storyboards & wireframes so we can prepare a clear scope. | The user stories will be created in conjunction with the selected vendor as part of the initial planning phase. |

	A.5 (b)	Requirements for Front-end Development. (7) Be easily updatable and designed to: Do you need this to be updatable by the contractor or updateable by end-users of the State.	This should be updatable by the vendor or TDOE personnel in an administrator type role. As defined in the requirements, the TDOE would like the ability to add metrics, displays, visualizations, etc. without extensive development work for each request.

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	A.4	A.4. Program Management Annual Work Plan – The Contractor shall prepare, within fifteen (15) calendar Days of the Contract Effective Date and each June 4 during the Term for each delivery of the Report Card thereafter, an Annual Work Plan that includes Agile software development methodologies. The Annual Work Plan shall outline the proposed focus of each Agile iteration to be performed to ensure all requirements are met for each Release of the Report Card delivery. The Annual Work Plan shall indicate areas of responsibility for the Contractor and the State. Can we receive any past sample(s) of any work plans that the State has received on previous projects. This helps us be clear on what is expected as a deliverable.	Every vendor and every project has a unique workplan and structure. TDOE recommends the vendor brings their own work plan with which they are comfortable and have executed successfully ensuring it aligns to current requirements outlined in the contract.

| | | A.4 (iii) 2 | An Agile Iteration Processes and Procedures Plan for defining processes and procedures that shall determine how the deliverables will be defined, documented, verified, managed, and controlled to ensure that all updates are escalated appropriately and addressed in a timely manner.

We shall be very flexible in the processes to follow so a strong alignment can be built with the 'project leads' at that state that we will be expected to interface with as part of such delivery. It will be very helpful if we can receive a template of expected detailed processes and procedures to follow as part of this project for the State.

Same comment applies for A4.(iii) 1 to A4.(iii) 10 | Each vendor, in its implementations, brings its own expertise in project management and project delivery. The TDOE does not require that the vendor follow the TDOE framework for delivery, but rather bring the framework for delivery that vendor has used successfully in other previous implementations. and is most comfortable in executing that meets the requirements for planning, reporting, and project delivery transparency. |
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| | | We believe the state is looking for the Reporting platform to be a data visualization system using which the various users of the system (based on their access and rights level) are able to visualize the data.

The state expects the system to be designed such that its extendable (more pages and views can be added, permissions etc. can be modified etc.) and that the data provided by the state can be inputted into the database and then visualized by the end-users.

Any documents, processes, specifications and relevant user stories, wireframes that you provide can help us to scope out the project and provide better refined cost and time estimates for the delivery. | The wireframes are to be drafted by the Contractor and reviewed with the TDOE based on the needs defined in the RFP. Using the existing state report card as a guide, the vendor should create wireframes and designs as part of the initial project phases. |

		Insurance requirements: Since the contract is for technology product and usage of vehicles shall not be involved, does the contractor need to demonstrate that It is carrying automobile liability insurance?	The insurance provision for Automobile Liability Insurance has been reduced. Please see the edits in release 2 of the RFP documents.
		Open source platforms: If we use open source platforms as part of this development and enroll for enterprise support for the platform, what length of support duration must be included as part of the project delivery to the state?	Support from the vendor for maintenance of the report card is expected to be the duration of the Contract Term. Enterprise support for any technologies or technology component used by the vendor must be approved by the TDOE prior to enrolling so the appropriate contractual relationship can be established for transfer of support ownership if needed. Such contracts would be in the name of the State of TN with the vendor as an authorized representative. Support contracts for technology are created to coincide with the fiscal year and should be renewable annually on July 1.

3. **Delete RFP # 33101-2102233111FAS2, in its entirety, and replace it with RFP # 2102233111FAS2, Release # 2, attached to this amendment.** Revisions of the original RFP document are emphasized within the new release. <mark>Any sentence or paragraph containing revised or new text is highlighted.</mark>

4. **RFP Amendment Effective Date.** The revisions set forth herein shall be effective upon release. All other terms and conditions of this RFP not expressly amended herein shall remain in full force and effect.